

## Testing payment models: Accountable Care Program for Washington State public employees

Through Healthier Washington, we are testing four new payment models that move toward a reimbursement system that achieves value as defined by the Triple Aim (better care, better health, lower costs). We call this the “Paying for Value” strategy within Healthier Washington.

The four test payment models focus on accountability—we will pay providers based on achieving the Triple Aim. These models will test the effectiveness of new purchasing and delivery mechanisms.

As the purchaser for almost 2 million public employees and Apple Health (Medicaid) clients, the Washington Health Care Authority will lead by using its market power to accelerate the testing and adoption of value-based reimbursement.

The **Accountable Care Program (ACP)** is one payment model currently being designed to be offered to Public Employee Benefit Board (PEBB) program members in January 2016. An ACP is a formal network of providers and health systems that:

- Provides ‘best in class’ patient service and experience – access to high-quality and timely service at lower costs to enrolled PEBB members.
- Delivers integrated physical, mental health and substance abuse services for defined populations.
- Assumes financial and clinical accountability for a defined population of PEBB members.

In December 2014, HCA released a request for applications for a Puget Sound ACP option. Selected ACP(s) will be announced in April 2015. The ACP(s) will be reimbursed based on their ability to deliver quality care and keep PEBB members healthy, not on whether they performed a specific test or service. Starting in 2017, HCA will work with other private and public employers to replicate the payment model, to further accelerate market transformation.

ACPs are part of [House Bill 2572](#), passed in 2014, which requires Apple Health and PEBB to increase value-based contracting and other payment incentives that promote quality, efficiency, cost savings, and health improvement. ACPs will move the state toward its goal of better health, better care and lower costs for all Washingtonians.

### For more information:

- The ACP request for applications: [www.hca.wa.gov/Pages/rfp.aspx](http://www.hca.wa.gov/Pages/rfp.aspx)
- Learn more about “Paying for Value” online: [www.hca.wa.gov/hw/Pages/paying\\_for\\_value.aspx](http://www.hca.wa.gov/hw/Pages/paying_for_value.aspx)

Fact sheet produced by the Washington State Health Care Authority, February 2015

Healthier Washington is Governor Inslee’s multi-sector partnership to improve health, transform health care delivery, and reduce costs. The Health Care Authority provides strategic oversight for this initiative. The project described was supported by Funding Opportunity Number CMS-1G1-14-001 from the U.S Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. The contents provided are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of HHS or any of its agencies.